

March 16, 2015

AOKY scholarships for GED® students



The following was sent to KYAE program directors.

Dear Program Directors,

I'm writing today to ask you to encourage your GED® students to take advantage of the excellent Accelerating Opportunity Kentucky scholarships available for the summer semester. (Summer term enrollment deadlines are approaching quickly, so I encourage you to begin recruiting students now.)

These limited-time scholarships cover not only the students' technical class tuition fees, but books and other fees associated with the technical classes students will be enrolled in during the summer.

This means that, along with the other tuition-waived, three-credit-hour course made available to AOKY students by your local community and technical college, **your qualifying GED® students can earn six college credit hours** – at no cost to them. (We recommend that you consider students at NRS levels 4, 5 and 6 for participation in AOKY.)

And, because of the recent change to the ability-to-benefit law, these students should be eligible for the Pell grant this fall semester, as long as they successfully complete the six credit hours over the summer. The reinstatement of Ability to Benefit also allows students to continue to simultaneously work toward earning their GED® diplomas while earning college credit over the fall semester. **However, in order for students to receive the combined and discretionary Pell grant maximum (as opposed to discretionary Pell only), first-time college students must be enrolled before July 1, 2015.**

Please connect with your local AOKY coordinator, who can help walk your identified, qualified students through the scholarship application and/or enrollment process by the summer enrollment deadline.

Click below for three marketing pieces that may be helpful as you recruit students. If you have additional marketing needs, please contact Missy Brownson at missy.brownson@ky.gov or (502) 573-5114, ext. 123.

- [Chico Hathaway, GED® Student and AOKY participant](#)
- [Marticia Irvin, GED® Student and AOKY participant](#)
- [Regina, GED® Student and AOKY participant](#)

Thank you for your hard work and for continuously providing your students with opportunities to improve their lives!

Reecie D. Stagnolia

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